



**STATE OF MICHIGAN**

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. HILDENBRAND, MAJ VICE CHAIR  
SEN. MEEKHOF  
SEN. WHITMER, MIN VICE CHAIR  
SEN. HUNTER

**THE SENATE  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
COMMITTEE**

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**SENATOR RANDY RICHARDVILLE  
CHAIR**

**DRAFT  
MINUTES**

The Senate Government Operations Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2013, in the Capitol Building, Rooms 402 and 403.

Senator Richardville called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.

The clerk recorded attendance as follows:

Present: Senators Richardville (C), Hildenbrand, Meekhof, and Whitmer

Absent: Hunter

Excused: None

Senator Hildenbrand arrived in committee at 1:16 pm.

Senator Meekhof left committee at 1:49 pm.

Senator Whitmer left committee at 1:34 pm and returned for the duration at 1:56 pm.

Senator Richardville announced that the committee would be taking testimony only on House Bills 4271, sponsored by Representative Mike Callton, and 5104, sponsored by Representative Eileen Kowall. Both of the representatives were present for the hearing, so Senator Richardville called on them to testify together.

Senator Richardville next called on Sgt. Amy Denner, of the Michigan State Police, who testified in opposition of the bills as written. Sgt. Denner answered questions from the committee members following her comments.

Senator Richardville next called on Mr. Eric Pessell, representing the MI Assoc of Local Environmental Health Administration, who testified in opposition of the bills. Mr. Pessell answered questions from the committee members following his comments.

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Senator Richardville next called on Ms. Robin Schneider, representing the National Patients Rights Assoc (NPRA), who testified in support of the bills. Ms. Schneider answered questions from the committee members following her comments.

Senator Richardville next called on the following individuals to share their respective positions on the bills:

Mr. Andrew W. Driver, citizen from Gaylord, member of NPRA—SUPPORT  
Mr. John Targowski, attorney from Kalamazoo—SUPPORT  
Mr. Ray Faust, Mayor of Montrose, MI, representing “small cities of Genessee County”—SUPPORT  
Mr. R. Anthony Ryan, citizen of Sahuarita, AZ, member of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP)—SUPPORT  
Mr. Guy Case, citizen from Lansing, MI—SUPPORT  
Mr. Charles Ream, citizen from Ann Arbor, MI, Exec Dir of Safer Michigan Coalition—SUPPORT  
Ms. Sally Haines, citizen from Ann Arbor, MI—SUPPORT  
Ms. Belinda Phillips and daughter, Marley, citizens from Bloomfield Hills, MI—SUPPORT  
Mr. Dakota Serna, citizen from Lansing, MI, representing Veterans—SUPPORT  
Ms. Suzanne Miller and Mr. Jeff Miller, representing Capitol Area National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML)—SUPPORT

The following individuals submitted testimony cards, stating their positions on the legislation, but did not wish to speak:

Ms. Mia McNeil, representing Property Management Assoc of MI—NEUTRAL  
Mr. Charles Smith, representing Kalamazoo Area Compassion Club—SUPPORT  
Mr. Ben Bodkin, representing MI Sheriffs Assoc—OPPOSE  
Mr. Terry Tarver, representing Kalamazoo Area Compassion Club—SUPPORT  
Ms. Meghan Swain, representing MI Assoc for Local Public Health—OPPOSE (submitted written testimony)  
Mr. Kevin McKinney, representing the MI Osteopathic Assoc—SUPPORT

Due to time constraints, Senator Richardville announced that the meeting would soon be adjourned, but that anyone who submitted a testimony card for the day’s hearing, and was not able to address the committee, would be called upon in a future hearing, of which the date was to be determined. Those individuals are:

Mr. Eric Gunnels, citizen of Clio, MI—SUPPORT (HB 5104), OPPOSE (HB 4271)  
Dr. Nakador—SUPPORT  
Ms. Mary Dettling, citizen from Ypsilanti, MI—SUPPORT  
Mr. Roger Maufort, representing Jackson County Compassion Club—SUPPORT  
Ms. Constance Taylor, representing Free Bree—SUPPORT  
Mr. Paul Farage, representing The Sociey of Healing Arts Institute (SOHAI)—SUPPORT  
Ms. Diane Wick, Chad, Jessie, Colin, citizens from Lapeer, MI—SUPPORT  
Mr. Steve Green, citizen from Lansing, MI—SUPPORT  
Mr. David Brogren, representing Cannabis Patients United—SUPPORT  
Mr. Jim Powers, representing Pediatric Cannabis Therapy—SUPPORT  
Ms. Rebecca Brown, representing Pediatric Cannabis Therapy—SUPPORT

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Mr. Steven Sharpe, citizen from Jackson, MI—SUPPORT

Ms. Brenda Scoggin, representing Capital Area Compassion Club—SUPPORT

Ms. Josey Scoggin, representing Sons & Daughters United—SUPPORT

Ms. Sara Spurgeon, citizen from Roseville, MI—SUPPORT

Senator Richardville adjourned the meeting without objection at 2:30 p.m.

(A video recording of this committee meeting is available upon request to the committee clerk for a minimal fee.)

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**Date approved by Committee**